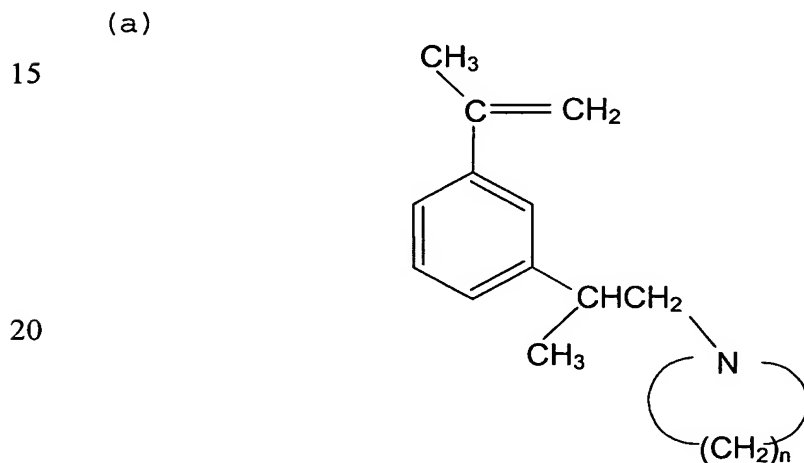
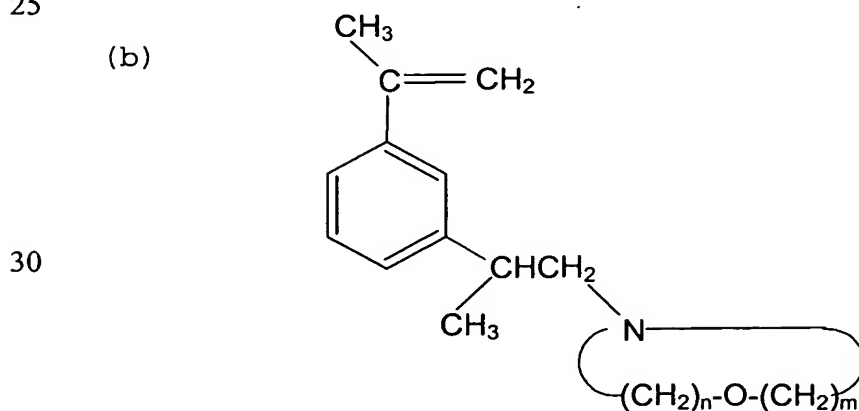


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for synthesizing a rubbery polymer that
5 comprises copolymerizing at least one conjugated diolefin
monomer and at least one functionalized monomer in an
organic solvent at a temperature which is within the range
of 20°C to about 100°C, wherein the polymerization is
initiated with an anionic initiator, wherein the
10 polymerization is conducted in the presence of an alkali
alkoxide, and wherein the functionalized monomer has a
structural formula selected from the group consisting of

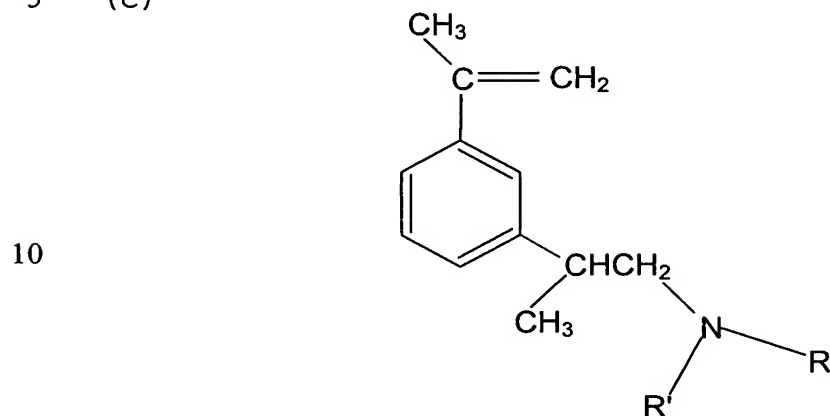


wherein n represents an integer from 4 to about 10,



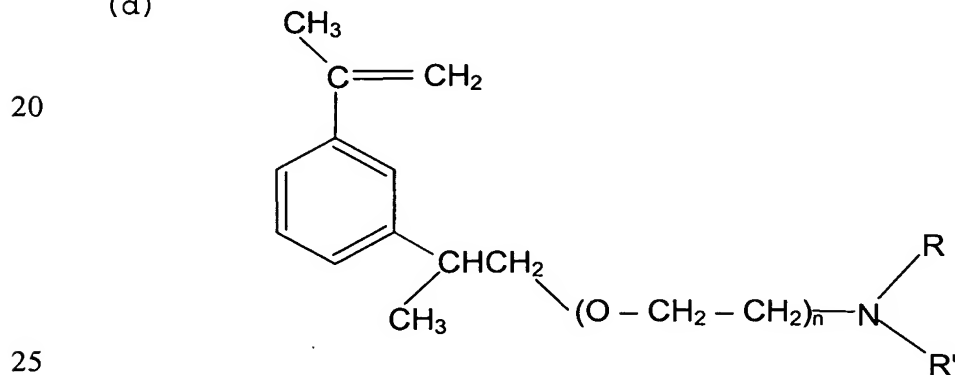
wherein n represents an integer from 0 to about 10 and
wherein m represents an integer from 0 to about 10, with
the proviso that the sum of n and m is at least 4;

5 (c)



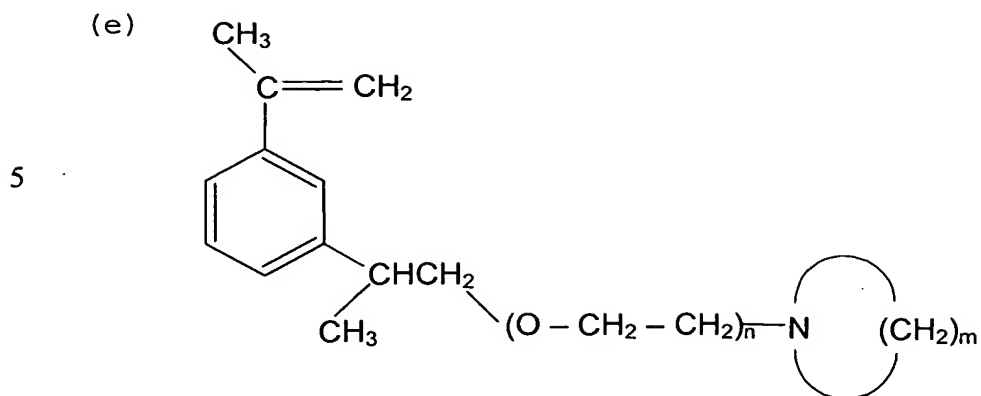
wherein R and R' can be the same or different and represent
15 allyl groups or alkoxy groups containing from about 1 to
about 10 carbon atoms;

(d)

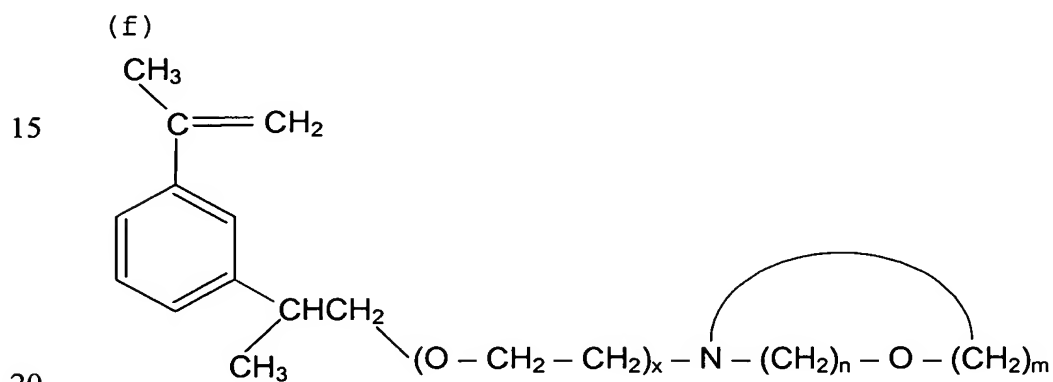


wherein n represents an integer from 1 to about 10, and
wherein R and R' can be the same or different and represent
alkyl groups containing from about 1 to about 10 carbon
atoms;

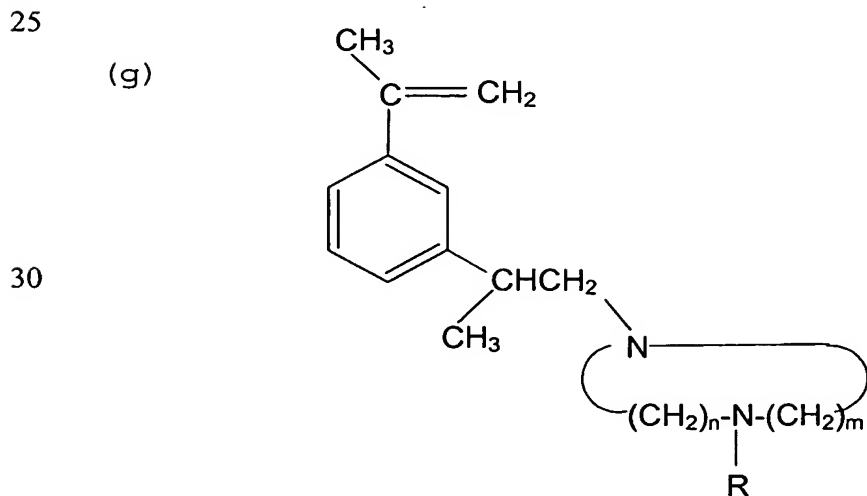
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10 wherein n represents an integer from 1 to about 10 and
 wherein m represents an integer from 4 to about 10;



wherein x represents an integer from about 1 to about 10,
 wherein n represents an integer from 0 to about 10 and
 wherein m represents an integer from 0 to about 10, with
 the proviso that the sum of n and m is at least 4;

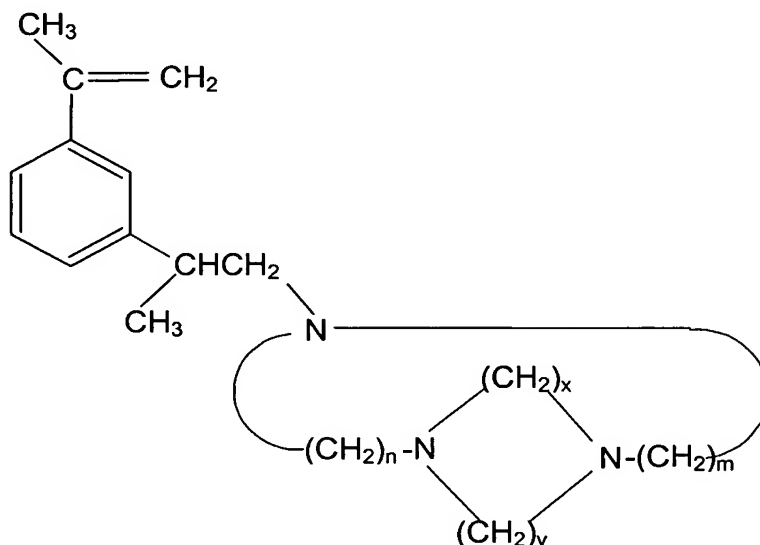


wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group containing from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, wherein n represents an integer from 0 to about 10, and wherein m represents an integer from 0 to about 10, with the proviso that the sum of n and m is at least 4; and
and

(h)

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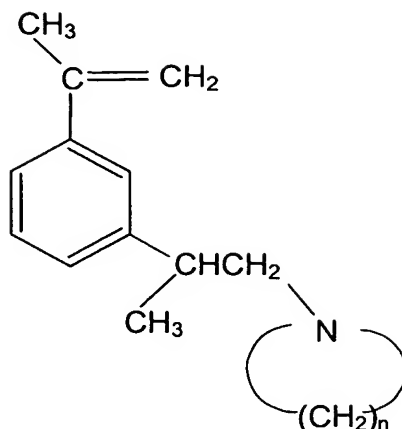
wherein n represents an integer from 0 to about 10, wherein m represents an integer from 0 to about 10, wherein x represents an integer from 1 to about 10, and wherein y represents an integer from 1 to about 10.

2. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the polymerization is initiated with an anionic initiator.

3. A process as specified in claim 2 wherein the anionic initiator is an alkyl lithium compound.

4. A process as specified in claim 13 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the structural formula:

5



10

5. A process as specified in claim 4 wherein n represents the integer 4.

15

6. A process as specified in claim 4 wherein n represents the integer 6.

7. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the polymerization is conducted in an inert organic solvent.

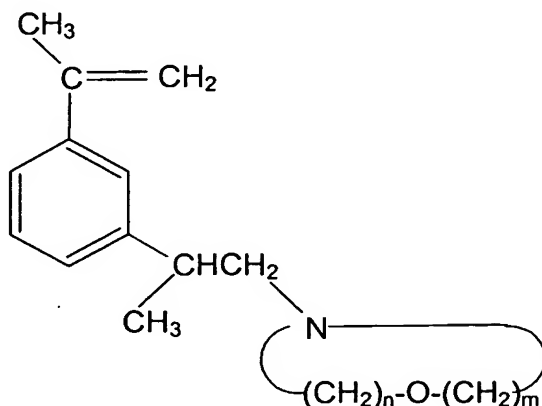
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8. A process as specified in claim 3 wherein the alkyl lithium compound is n-butyl lithium.

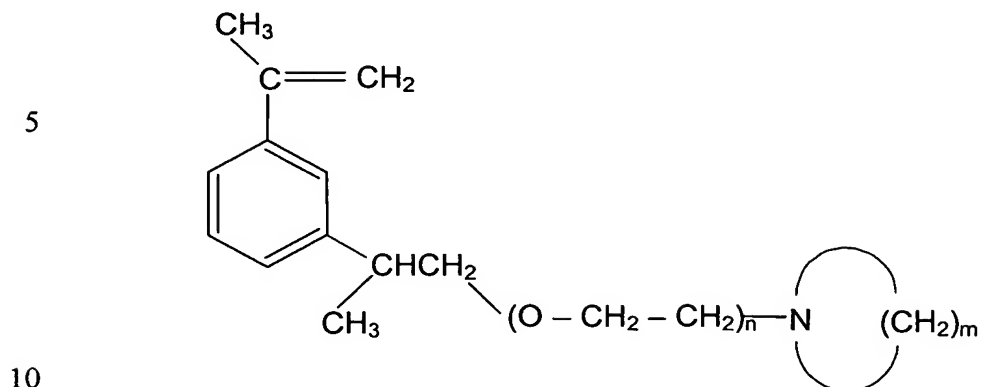
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9. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the formula:

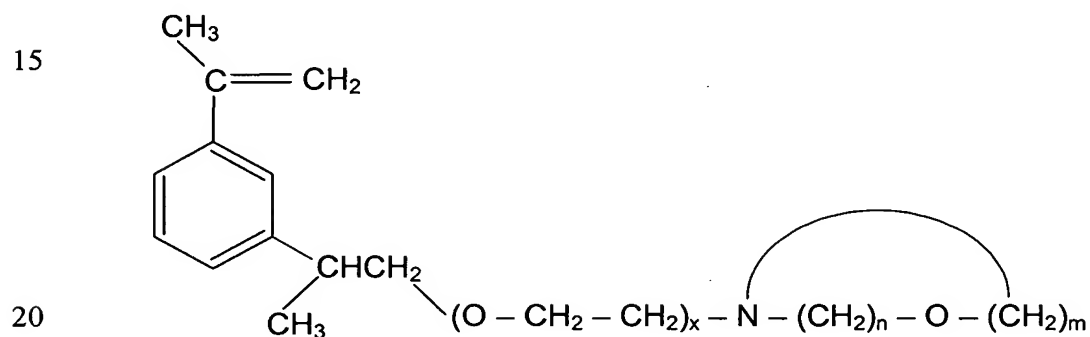
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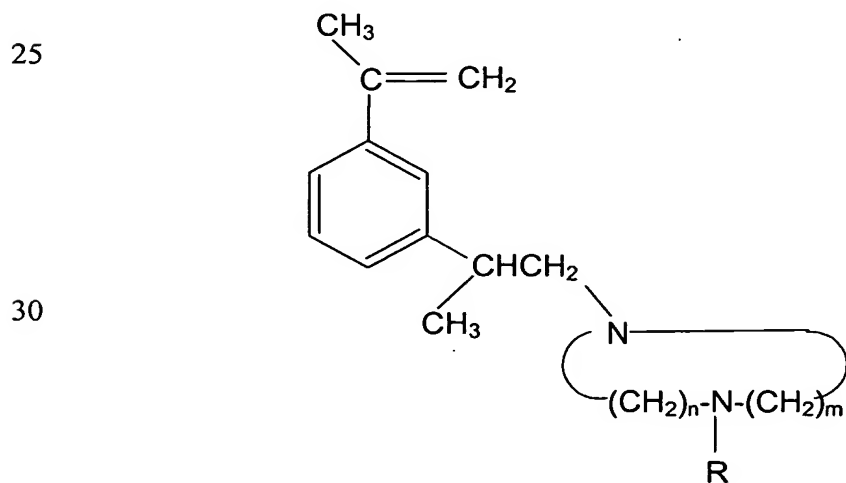
10. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the formula:



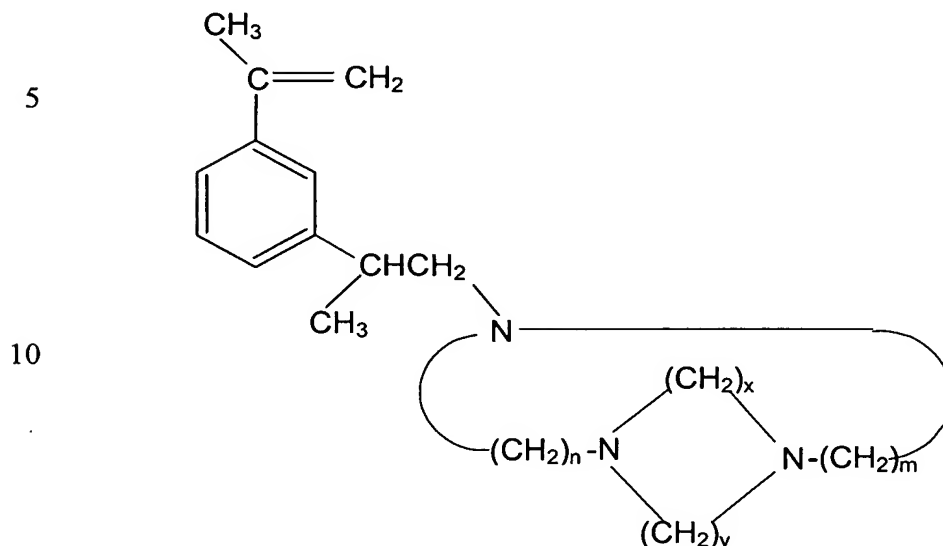
11. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the formula:



12. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the formula:



13. A process as specified in claim 1 wherein the functionalized monomer is of the formula:



14. A process as specified in claim 10 wherein m represents the integer 4.

15. A process as specified in claim 10 wherein m represents the integer 6.

20

16. A process as specified in claim 10 wherein n represents the integer 1.

17. A process as specified in claim 10 wherein n represents the integer 2.

25

18. A process as specified in claim 10 wherein n represents the integer 3.